

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
Pastor Lee Welker  
April 21, 2024  
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Gathered  
Fed  
Sent**

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
Neighborhood Connection**

6810 E. 10th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46219  
317-357-7369  
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Council President – Connie Jarvis – 317-490-5827  
Council Vice President – Jesse Herzberg – 317-358-9850

**Gathered by the Spirit  
Fed by Jesus  
Sent to live God's Love**

**Welcome to worship today.** Our prayer is that we may meet our holy God in song, word, activity and prayer.

**Introduction**

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

*[Congregation's responses are printed in **BOLD** type.]*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

#### GATHERED

### THANKSGIVING OF BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

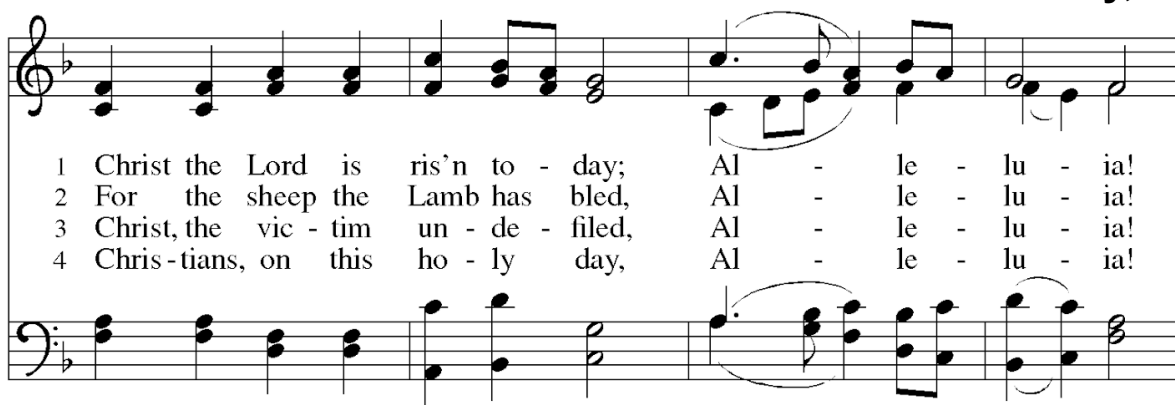
**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

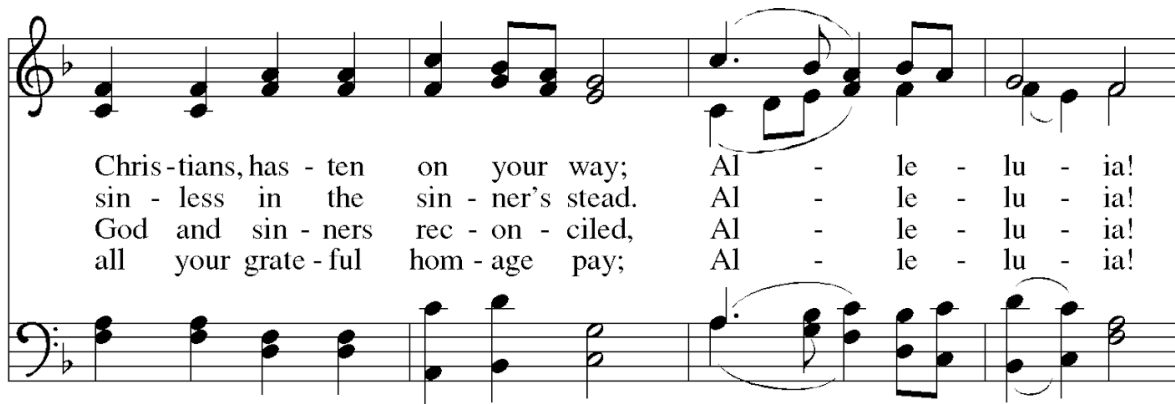
**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

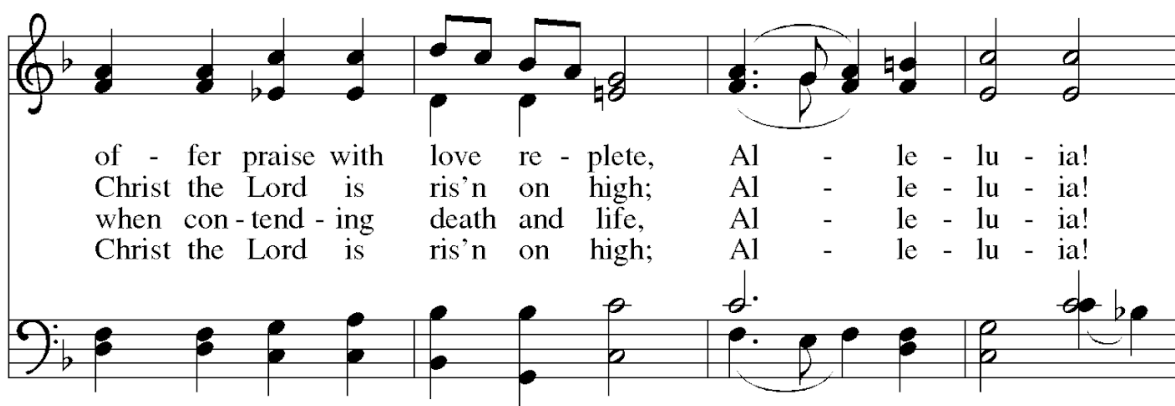
**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris - tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

## EASTER PROCLAMATION

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed.**

Stones roll away, tombs are open, new possibilities are born, women sing for joy and men race to share the good news.

**We have received the good news. The Lord is our salvation.**

The Easter joy of the living Christ Jesus be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and

*Refrain*



hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his. This is the feast of



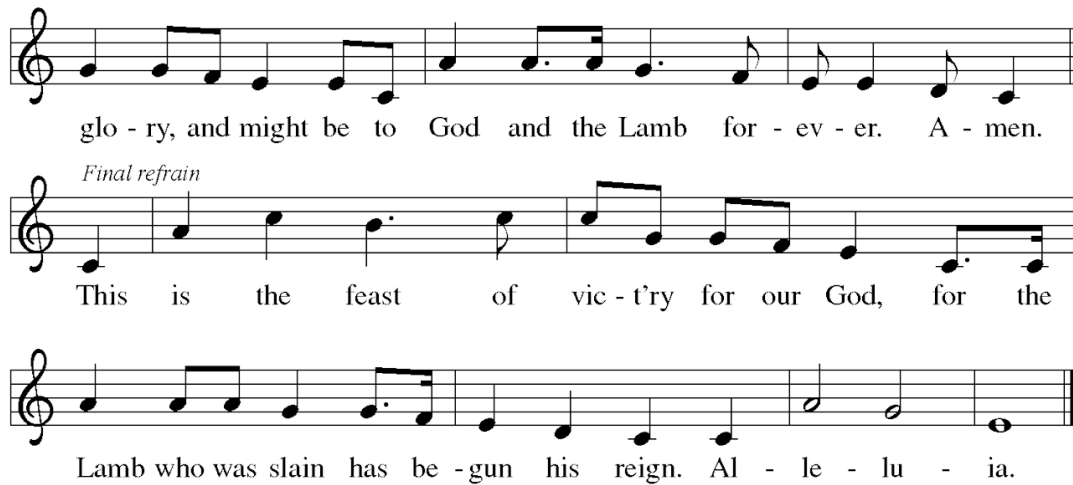
vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-



le-lu-ia. 2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or,



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep,  
**you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING Acts 4:5-12

The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 23

*(read responsively)*

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff — they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

## SECOND READING 1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

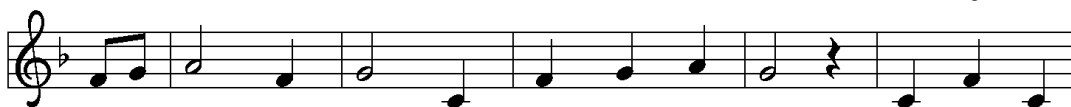
And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please stand, as you able*



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.



## **GOSPEL John 10:11-18**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The gospel our Lord.

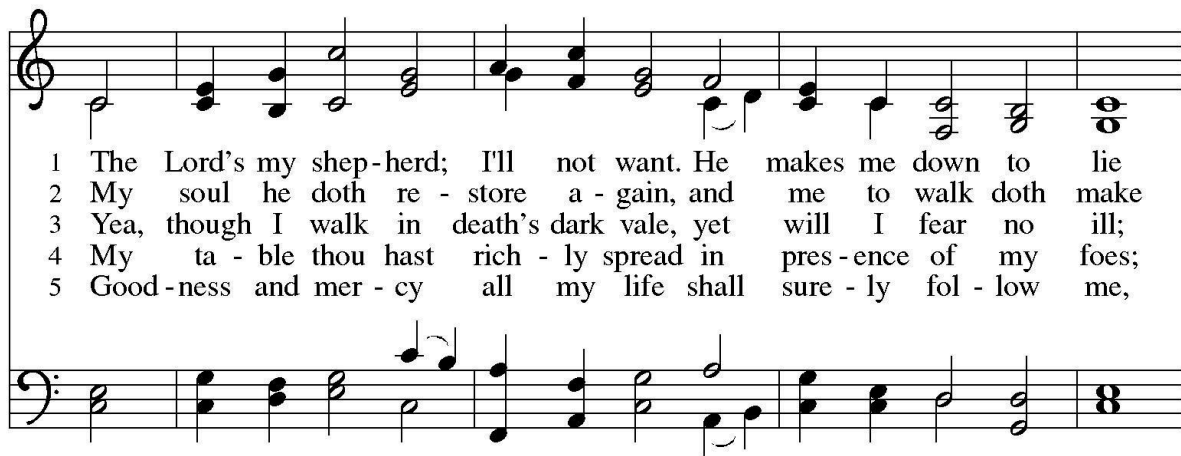
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

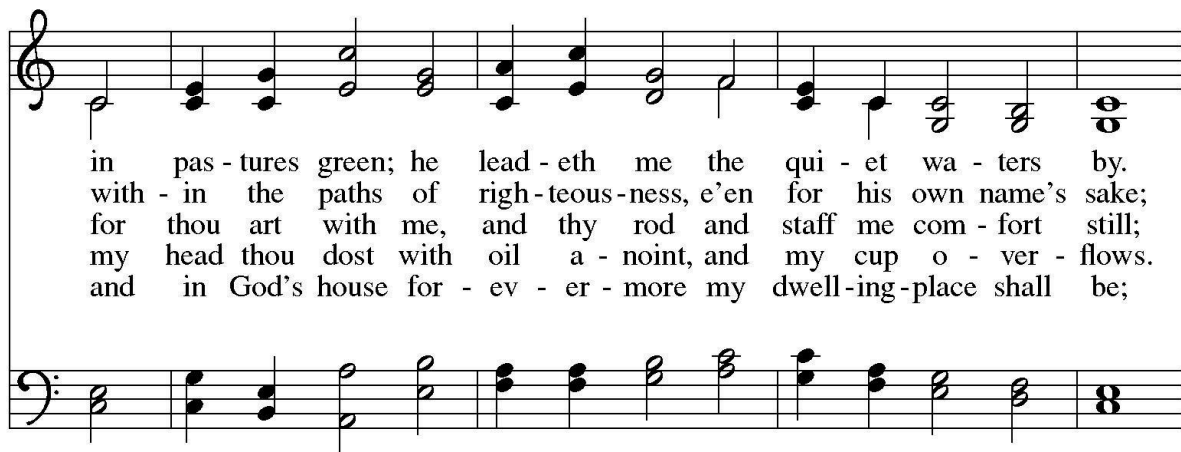
**HYMN**

**778**

**The Lord's My Shepherd**



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie  
 2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make  
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;  
 4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;  
 5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
 with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;  
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;  
 my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
 with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.  
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.  
 My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

## NICENE CREED



Together let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed:

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each prayer petition ends, *God of grace,*  
Our response, **hear our prayer**

## **THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*You may share the peace of Christ with one another*

## **OFFERING**

### **MEAL**

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. Risen One,

**you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

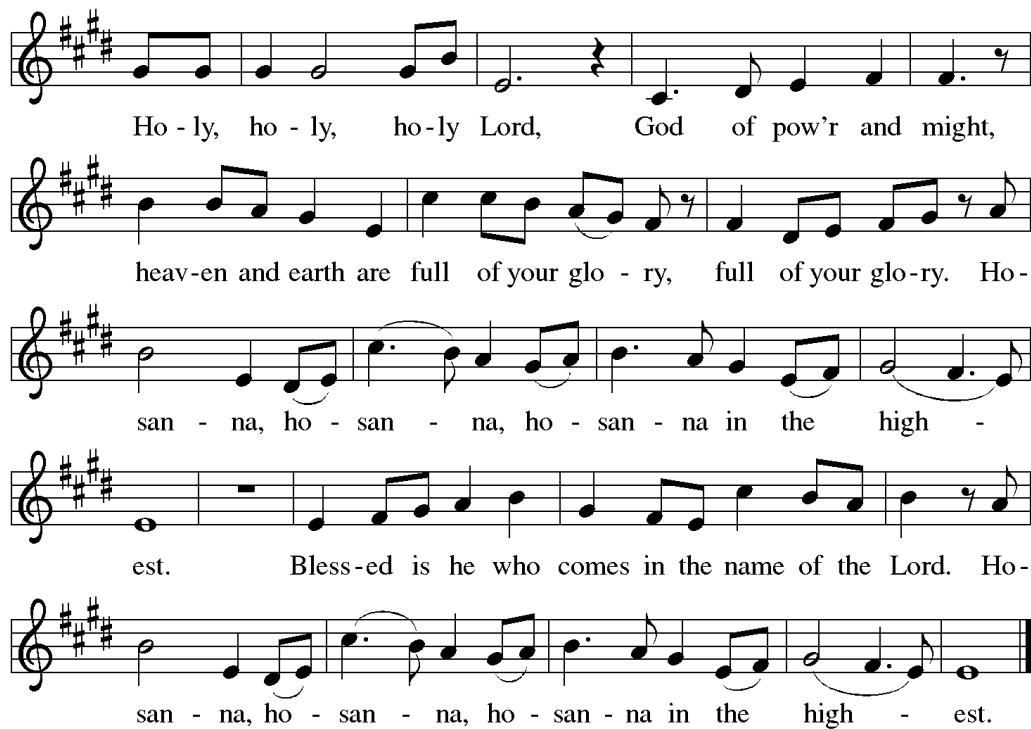
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,.....

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.....

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

.....be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

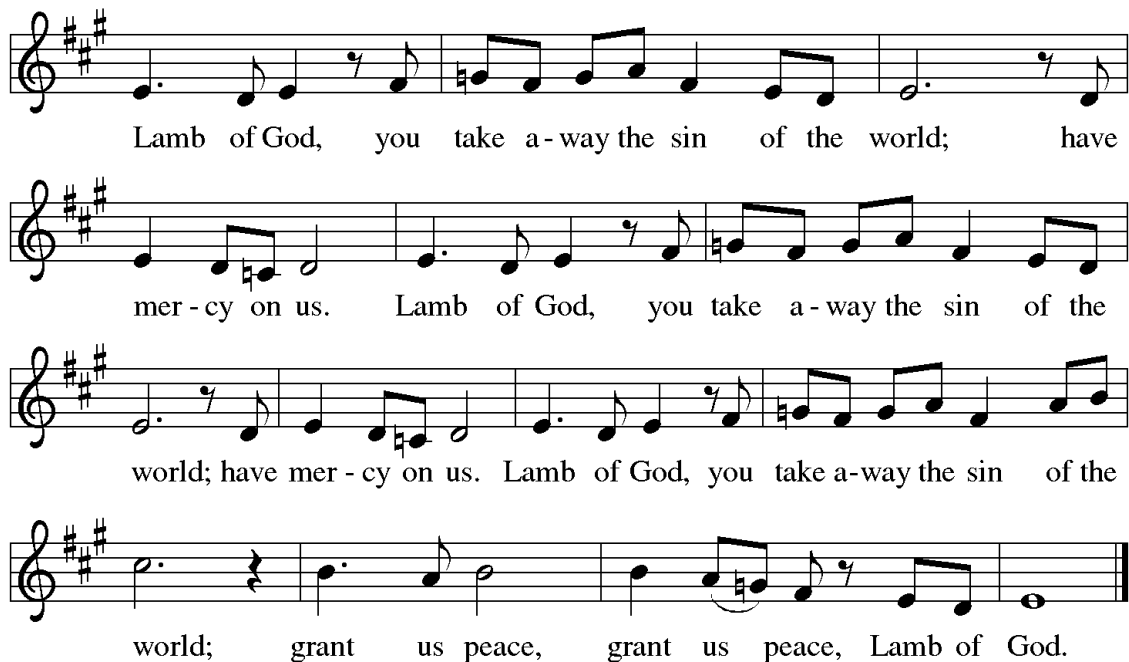
Our Father in heaven,  
 hallowed be your name,  
 your kingdom come,  
 your will be done,  
 on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those  
 who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial  
 and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power,  
 and the glory are yours,  
 now and forever. Amen.

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Assisting Minister will be communed first so that those on Zoom can partake in the communion before the congregation:

The Body of Christ given for you.  
The Blood of Christ shed for you



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus the Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Shepherding God,  
**you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.**  
**Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share**  
**the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

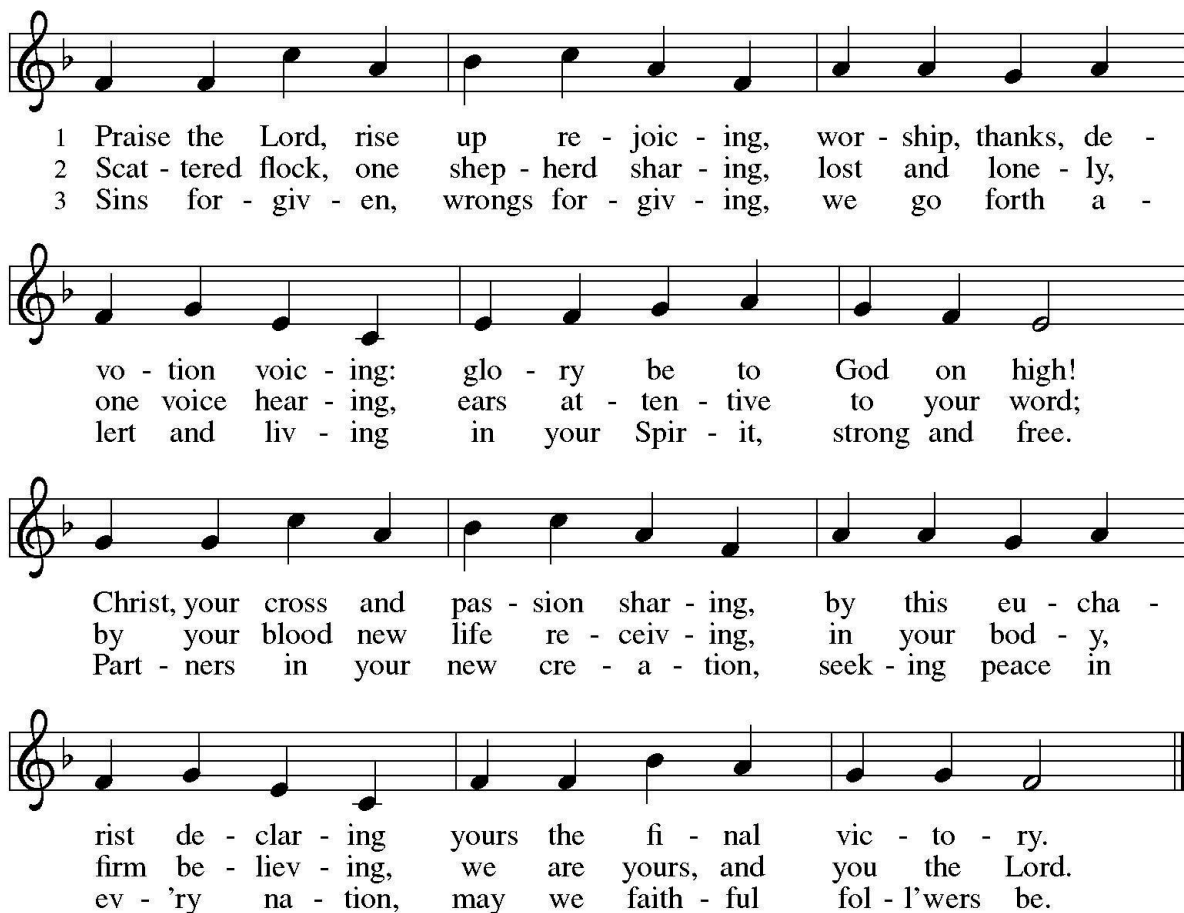
## BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ☩ bless you now and always.

**Amen.**



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -  
 2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,  
 3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -

vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!  
 one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;  
 lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.

Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -  
 by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,  
 Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in

rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.  
 firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.  
 ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Music portions of the Liturgy, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Setting 8.**

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Texts for **April 28**: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

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**The Attendance** on at last week services was 21 and 3 on Zoom &

YouTube.

### **Calendar for the week**

**Tuesday April 23** – Blood Drive volunteer meeting at 7:00 pm so that we can plan as to how we will organize the Blood Drive on May 19.

**Wednesday April 24** - Neighborhood Connection Committee Meeting at 7p.m.

They will use the evening for two purposes.

First, we will hold the Neighborhood Connection Meeting. We will discuss the Easter Egg Hunt which was held in March. Next, we will discuss upcoming events, especially the Soup and Chili Lunch with Bingo Afterwards which will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024 from Noon to 3PM.

Second, (For those who are physically able) We will set up the Fellowship Hall for "the Soup and Chili Lunch with Bingo Afterwards" Event which scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2024 and the Funtastics 50th Anniversary Event which is scheduled Friday, April 26, 2024. This will involve setting up and rearranging tables and putting out more chairs. There may be other things to do like putting on tables clothes and other decorations.

**Friday April 26** - Funtastics 50th Anniversary Party. at 6:30pm RSVP with Cynthia Deeter

**Saturday April 27** - Neighborhood Connection Soup, Chili and Bingo at 12 p.m.

### **Upcoming Events**

**Saturday May 11** - Women's Salad Luncheon Saturday at 12:00pm RSVP with Cynthia Deeter

**Saturday May 18** - Neighborhood Connection Wiener Roast and Commons Activities at 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday May 19** – Blood drive for Versiti Blood Center of Indiana from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. We are looking for volunteers to assist with the blood drive, as well as people to donate blood. Please consider attending and supporting this live-saving opportunity. Below is the link to sign up and donate blood at Gethsemane. If you are able to donate blood, please sign up for the time slot that you desire. We will still have our worship service at 10:30 am, but you may leave the service in order to donate.

[https://donate.indiana.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/166972](https://donate.indiana.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/166972)

**The ICAN Food Pantry** is at Downey Avenue Christian Church, 111 S. Downey Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46219. They appreciate all of the food and toiletry donations that are provided to them through Gethsemane Lutheran Church. Their website is [www.icanfoodpantry.com](http://www.icanfoodpantry.com). They have an Amazon wish list on their webpage where you can select items on their list, order and pay for them, and they will be mailed directly to Downey Avenue Christian Church. They also are asking for these new or gently used items: Pots, pan, two-slice toasters, and can openers. Thank you for any and all donations.

**ICAN - Irvington Community Advocacy Network** – Office located at Irvington United Methodist Church, 30 N. Audubon, Indianapolis, IN 46219

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Phone: 317-322-9645

Email: [ICANCenterIrvington@gmail.com](mailto:ICANCenterIrvington@gmail.com)

Program Director: Brianna Owens

Potential Assistance and Referral Services for: \*Food Pantries, \*Clothing Closet, \*Employment and Resumes, \*Applications for Assistance, \*Continuing Education, \*Transportation Assistance

If the office is closed and you are in need of immediate assistance, please call 211 or go to [findhelp.org](http://findhelp.org).